

# GSA Link

Issue 9

September 2006

## MESSAGE FROM THE REGIONAL ADMINISTRATOR



LARRY TRUJILLO R.A.

In my last issue of GSA Link, I introduced you to our new Administrator, Lurita Doan. If you recall, her vision is to make GSA the premier source for cost-effective, timely, government procurement, and compliant property management. Today, I am pleased to share with you some of her newly appointed staff members who will play an intricate part in delivering on her renewed vision for GSA.



### John F. Phelps - Chief of Staff

John Phelps was named Chief of Staff for the U.S. General Services Administration effective July 3, 2006. Phelps will oversee the Office of the Administrator, ensure effective and efficient staffing of agency programs and projects, guide the agency's continuity of operations planning and emergency response efforts, and maintain and facilitate coordination with GSA Regions. He graduated Magna Cum Laude from St. John's University in Minnesota with a Bachelors degree in Government. He holds a Juris Doctorate from the University of Arizona College of Law, and Master of Law degrees from the Judge Advocate General's School and the University of Virginia School of Law.



### James A. Williams - Commissioner, Federal Acquisition Service

James A. Williams was appointed Commissioner of the Federal Acquisition Service, effective June, 2006. Williams provides strategic direction-setting, performance management, and leadership for efficient and effective

program execution necessary to provide the best value for the government and taxpayers, including proactive customer assistance and simplified procedures. A native of Virginia, Williams holds a Bachelor degree in Business Administration from Virginia Commonwealth University and a Masters in Business Administration from The George Washington University.



### Kevin Messner - Associate Administrator, Congressional Affairs

Kevin Messner was appointed as GSA's Associate Administrator of Office of Congressional and Intergovernmental Affairs (OCIA) on June 26, 2006. He is responsible for all aspects of GSA's communications and coordination with

Congress, the Judiciary, and other federal, state, and local governments. Messner directs an office that supervises and maintains agency liaison with all members of Congress and congressional committees. OCIA communicates GSA's legislative program to the Office of Management and Budget, Congress, and other interested parties. Messner holds a Bachelor degree in Mechanical Engineering from the University of Wisconsin in Madison and a Master of Business Administration from Thunderbird – the Garvin School of International Management.



### J.B. Horton - GSA's White House Liaison

J.B. Horton of Texas was appointed as GSA's White House Liaison, effective July 3, 2006. Most recently, Horton served as Special Assistant in the White House Liaison Office at the U.S. State Department. Prior to May 2003, Mr.

Horton worked at the U.S. Small Business Administration (SBA), within the Office of International Trade, managing activities related to SBA's U.S. Export Assistance Centers.

"J.B.'s ability, commitment and public sector experience will be a tremendous benefit for GSA as he steps forward in his role as GSA's liaison with the White House," said Administrator Doan. Horton attended West Texas A&M University and graduated with a Bachelor degree in International Business. He later attended the University of Leeds Business School in Leeds, England, earning a Masters degree.



<http://www.gsa.gov/r8>

## SUCCESS STORIES

### 3rd Annual Front Range Showcase

- Christopher H. Cole

The General Services Administration (GSA) Federal Acquisition Service co-sponsored a customer training and vendor partner event highlighting how GSA works with Small and Service Disabled Veteran-owned Businesses. Other sponsors included Buckley Air Force Base and the Aurora Chamber of Commerce, along with input from several other federal agencies. This was the third annual Front Range Showcase for Small and Service Disabled Veteran-owned businesses, held at the Holiday Inn at DIA on August 17, 2006.

GSA customers and vendor partners provided positive feedback for their attendance. More than 250 attendees from the government and small business sector networked and received training. The free training included:

GSA Advantage Beginner and Advanced; GSA e-Buy-Beginner and Advanced; Acquisition Assistance; Multiple Awards Schedules Commercial Products and services

Contracting with GSA

The do's and don'ts of contracting

Doing business with City Government by the procurement manager of the Aurora Business Development Center

Lending/lender panel from the Aurora Business Development Center

How to earn your cost containment certification

Aside from the training received, the vendor partners had 75 booths set up to help promote their GSA schedule contracts. The training schedule provided open times for customers to meet with the many different businesses and discuss upcoming opportunities. GSA Office of Small Business Utilization and the Federal Acquisition Service of the Rocky Mountain Region distributed brochures and materials to vendors and customers about veteran-owned business and other GSA services available to them.

## UPCOMING EVENTS

### National Fire Prevention and Safety Day

- Brenda L. Bronson

Attend GSA and West-Metro Fire Rescue's "National Fire Prevention and Safety Day," to be held Tuesday, October 10, from 9 a.m. to 1 p.m. at the Denver Federal Center (parking lot south of Building 67).

Highlights of Fire Safety Day:

- Meet Sparky the Fire Dog and Smokey the Bear!
- See West-Metro Fire Department's fire trucks, towers, and ambulances
- See "Engine 1/2," Wheat Ridge Fire Department's child-size drivable fire engine
- Climb on "Flight for Life" helicopter
- Watch Colorado Urban Search and Rescue's dogs find people
- See how smoke travels through Xcel Energy's Gas Safety House
- Practice "Stop, Drop, and Roll"
- Practice "Dial 911" to report an emergency
- Practice "Crawl Under Smoke"
- Learn water safety
- Get measured and weighed for correct car safety seat
- Learn the difference between toys (safe) and tools (dangerous)
- Run a relay in fire bunker gear
- Watch chemistry magic
- Collect give-aways for children - Fire hats, coloring books, stickers, pencils & more
- Food and drinks sold



## OUR SERVICES

### GSA and Assisted Acquisition Services

- Carolyn S. Helstrom

Effective July 21, 2006, GSA Directive, ADM \*\* 5440.568 (CHGE 2), authorized the Federal Technology Service (FTS) to provide “assisted” acquisition services utilizing all of GSA schedule contracts, multiple award schedules, small business set asides, 8(a) contracts, and other competitive contracting means. Assisted acquisition services include full-service acquisition, program management, project management, and financial management.

FTS assisted acquisition services encompasses the following contracting administration and project management activities on behalf of GSA’s customers:

- Pre-award services
- Assistance with an acquisition strategy
- Write a statement of work
- Independent government cost estimate
- Signing contracting documents
- Legal support (if required)
- Post-award services
- Single point of contact (COTR)
- Monthly reports
- Review and pay contractor invoices
- Contractual resolutions
- Close-out of project

Because of the government’s purchasing power and potential economies of scale, federal agencies may expect discounted prices. Customers will also receive socio-economic credit when using small businesses for their solution.

This change will improve the way one does business with GSA. Not only will FTS assist in procuring technology commodities and services for technology, but they can provide acquisition services to procure other items such as furniture, medical supplies, transportation, building supplies, hospitality and cleaning services, office solutions, tools, hardware, and more. The new policy should assist businesses to perform work and provide services to GSA’s clients.

If your agency has a need for this service, or would like more information, contact the FTS office in your geographical location. They will need a description of your requirement and funding availability to assist you with the mission of your agency.

For more information, please contact: Patrick Mulcare at 303.236.7197 or Debbra Deaver at 303.236.6025.

### Electronic Tools and Free Training Assist Customers in Streamlined Procurement - Cheryl W. Ansaldi

In the fast-paced marketplace of the 21st century, electronic technology is critical to conducting business. GSA offers e-tools to help agencies manage their GSA procurement transactions, place orders, and announce business opportunities. Here are a few of our e-tools that will help facilitate streamlined acquisitions.

GSA Advantage – [www.gsaadvantage.gov](http://www.gsaadvantage.gov) - Offers an online shopping and ordering system that provides access to thousands of contractors and millions of services and products.

e-Buy – [www.ebuy.gsa.gov](http://www.ebuy.gsa.gov) - Provides an online Request for Quote (RFQ) tool for a wide range of commercial services and products that are offered by GSA. This can also be used to find sources of supply.

Schedules e-Library – [www.gsaelibrary.gsa.gov](http://www.gsaelibrary.gsa.gov) - Serves as an online source for the latest contract award information for GSA and Department of Veterans Affairs (VA) schedules, as well as Government-wide Acquisition Contracts (GWACs). It also provides information on what schedules we have, which suppliers have contracts, and what items are available.

GSA Global Supply – [www.gsaglobalsupply.gsa.gov](http://www.gsaglobalsupply.gsa.gov) - Presents you with online ordering and access to tens of thousands of tools, office products, and other supplies for government customers anywhere in the world.

## OUR SERVICES

### **Electronic Tools and Free Training Assist Customers in Streamlined Procurement** (contued from page 2)

#### Free Training!

Sometimes all of this new technology can be overwhelming. To make it easier for our customers, downloadable tutorials are available on many of our sites. Looking for something more personal? Federal Acquisition Service Customer Service Directors in the Rocky Mountain Region provide free training on the GSA schedules program and our e-tools. Courses are available on fully utilizing our e-tools, the multiple award schedules program, or a customized version to meet your needs. By offering formal or casual instruction, we can come to you at your office. Brown bag lunches, monthly meetings, or special sessions, we will train according to your schedule. If your agency is interested in training or have questions about the GSA schedules or assisted acquisition services, please contact the Customer Service Director for your area listed below.

Cheryl Ansaldi - Denver Metro & Northern Colorado, [cheryl.ansaldi@gsa.gov](mailto:cheryl.ansaldi@gsa.gov), 303-236-7575

Chris Cole - North & South Dakota, [christopher.cole@gsa.gov](mailto:christopher.cole@gsa.gov), 303-236-7427

Arleen Kinder - Colorado Springs, Southern Colorado & Wyoming, [arleen.kinder@gsa.gov](mailto:arleen.kinder@gsa.gov), 719-333-6390

Erich Schuette - Utah & Montana, [erich.schuette@gsa.gov](mailto:erich.schuette@gsa.gov), 801-455-8473

If your agency has a need for this service, or would like more information, contact the FTS office in your geographical location. They will need a description of your requirement and funding availability to assist you with the mission of your agency.

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## SUCCESS STORIES

### **GSA Helping Reduce the 4.5 Pounds of Waste We Produce Each Day!** - *Sally Mayberry*



According to the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA), U.S. residents, businesses, and institutions produced more than 236 million tons of trash in 2003, which is approximately 4.5 pounds of waste per person per day. The number of landfills in the United States is steadily decreasing at a rate of two per day. GSA is doing its part in helping reduce waste by collaborating with local communities and industry partners to creatively recycle its building materials, resulting in reduced waste reaching our landfills.

A good example of this is taking place in Casper, Wyoming. Here, GSA is working on a site expansion project at the Ewing T. Kerr Federal Courthouse.

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## SUCCESS STORIES

### **GSA Helping Reduce the 4.5 Pounds of Waste We Produce Each Day!** (continued from page 4)

The customers in this building developed new security requirements that would lead to GSA having to demolish the Morad Building, a historical structure nearby. Rather than taking a more traditional approach to just tearing down the building, GSA worked with the Casper Historic Preservation Commission, the City of Casper, and the Wyoming State Historic Preservation Office to identify an agreement that could creatively meet a number of needs. The group identified a unique solution that accomplished the following:

**Reduce the amount of waste the project created:** Numerous building materials will be recycled in several different ways. Historic and construction materials are finding their way to local contractors, scrap metal yards, building material salvage yards, etc.

- Roof timbers and floor joists were sold on behalf of the historic preservation commission. Those timbers will be used in a new construction project elsewhere in the state.
- Bricks and cornice have two destinations: Some will be used as a base for the new commemorative plaque and the rest were sold to be used in various projects throughout the state.
- Building materials that are not sold, will be crushed and used in part as backfill once the building foundation is demolished.

**Meet increased security requirements:** One of the new requirements calls for a 50 foot security buffer on the south and east sides of the historic building.

**Preserve a piece of Casper's history:** The agreement identified several architecturally significant items to be salvaged from the historic building. The contractor is disassembling the historic Morad building piece by piece. Additionally, GSA provided the City of Casper and the Historic Preservation Commission with historical oral and written documentation about the building. The oral history was donated to the local college library for public access.

**Give back to the Casper community:** GSA is building a small memorial plaza and placing an historic plaque where the building stood. The base of the plaque is built with building materials from the Morad Building.

**Giving back to the Casper Historic Preservation Commission:** The commission is receiving the money from the sale of any salvaged historic material that will be used in future historic projects in Casper. The commission is a volunteer group that otherwise does not have any funding.

For more information about this project, please contact Michelle R. Brummett, Project Manager, at 303-236-8000 ext 5232.

## OUR SERVICES

### **GSA Fleet assists in “Greening the Government” through the Energy Policy Act of 2005** - *Gordon L. Lancaster*

Over the past year, GSA Fleet has been preparing to implement legislation which not only affects the way we operate, but how we assist our customer base.

On August 8, 2005, President Bush signed the Energy Policy Act of 2005 (EPACT 2005) into law. EPACT 2005 has a number of impacts on GSA Fleet’s Alternative Fuel Vehicle (AFV) Program and its customers.

Amongst these changes are:

**AFV Incremental Costs** - Requires GSA and any federal agency that procures vehicles for distribution to other federal agencies to allocate the incremental cost of AFVs over the entire fleet of vehicles distributed by such an agency (H.R. 6, Title VII, Subtitle A, § 702). GSA Fleet is implementing this requirement for the fiscal year (FY) 2007 vehicle ordering cycle by applying a surcharge to all orders based on fleet size and the average number of alternative vehicles purchased in previous years.

**Alternative Fuel Use** - Dual fueled vehicles shall operate on alternative fuel unless a waiver is acquired from the Department of Energy (DOE) (H.R. 6, Title VII, Subtitle A, § 701).

**Vehicle Exemptions** - Exempts vehicles directly used in the emergency repair of transmission lines and in the restoration of electricity service following power outages, as determined by the DOE Secretary from the AFV requirement (H.R. 6, Title VII, Subtitle A, § 707).

**Fuel Cell Vehicles** - Requires federal agencies that operate light or heavy-duty fleets to acquire fuel cell vehicles and hydrogen energy systems no later than January 1, 2010. DOE will pay the incremental cost

between the fuel cell vehicle and a feasible alternative vehicle, as well as the difference between hydrogen energy systems and feasible alternatives. If the DOE Secretary finds an agency cannot find an efficient and reliable fuel cell vehicle or hydrogen energy system, the agency shall be exempted from the requirement (H.R. 6, Title VII, Subtitle F, § 782).

Other helpful links in regards to AFV policy and usage:

**GSA Fleet AFVs** - [www.gsa.gov/afv](http://www.gsa.gov/afv) - Information on GSA Fleet’s AFV program, including current fiscal year product guide and frequently asked questions.

**Alternative Fuels Data Center** - The Alternative Fuels Data Center is a one-stop shop for all your alternative fuel and alternative fuel vehicle information needs. This site has more than 3,000 documents in its database, an interactive fuel station mapping system, listings of available alternative fuel vehicles, links to related Web sites, and much more. <http://www.eere.energy.gov/afdc/index.html>

**Energy Efficiency and Renewable Energy** - The site includes organizational information such as strategic plans, contacts, office information, success stories, papers, and transportation data/analysis. It also provides easy to understand technical overviews and detailed information on technical programs related to vehicles, fuels, and emissions. <http://www.eere.energy.gov/vehiclesandfuels/>

**Alternative Fueling Station Locator** - Find station locations on national and local interactive maps, view general nationwide and state-specific station counts, and plan a route for a trip with your alternative fuel vehicle. [http://www.eere.energy.gov/afdc/infrastructure/fuel\\_inf.html](http://www.eere.energy.gov/afdc/infrastructure/fuel_inf.html)

## KUDOS

### Meet Carlos Usera - *Sidney E. Garcia*



Carlos Usera has been the Acting Assistant Regional Administrator for GSA's Federal Technology Service (FTS) in the Rocky Mountain Region since February 2006. He has a strong background in all areas of systems and human resource management. He graduated from the United States Military Academy at West Point with a Bachelor Degree in Engineering and was an Army Scholar earning his Master of Science

Degree in Industrial Engineering from Clemson University in South Carolina. He held various leadership and operational positions as a United States Army Military Police Officer.

Following his military career, Carlos continued to serve in various high-level information technology management positions. Prior to coming to GSA, he was the Director of Information Technology with the Kansas Department of Corrections. Carlos is married with four children and a grandson. In his spare time, he teaches on-line college classes in math, spreadsheets, and database management.



### Special Advisor to the Regional Administrator - *Patty Malloy*

If you haven't had the pleasure of meeting Mr. Michael L. Bieda, you may cross his path someday as his daily work includes a broad range of responsibilities. Mr. Bieda joined GSA in December 2003 and serves as the Special Advisor to the Regional Administrator of GSA's Rocky Mountain Region.

He handles a variety of high profile projects and events for the Regional Administrator that range from conducting congressional, customer, and field office visits, to working on special projects and events such as the Federal Forum and the Denver Federal Center Redevelopment Project. These high profile projects and events involve input and coordination with the White House, the Denver Federal Executive Board, federal agencies, and various state and local government offices.

Mr. Bieda is also responsible for the development of regional policy on behalf of the Regional Administrator. These policies include areas such as travel, delegations of authority, issuance and tracking of electronic equipment and cell phones, and telecommuting.

Prior to working for GSA, Mr. Bieda served as a Colorado State District Court Judge, an Assistant Attorney General for the State of Colorado and as a Hearing Officer for the Denver Career Service Authority in Employee Grievance and Disciplinary appeals. He was an adjunct professor of Business Law at Adams State College. We are grateful to have Mr. Bieda on our GSA team.

### Meet Kim Barnett - *Sally Mayberry*



Kim Barnett, a Montana native, joined GSA's Rocky Mountain Region Public Buildings Service (PBS) in 2000 as a Property Management Intern. She graduated from Regis University with a Bachelor degree in Business Administration/Economics. After college, she worked as an Assistant Property Manager for BetaWest in Denver and then returned to Montana and was in sales for Food Services of America.

She currently lives in Billings, Montana, and manages the James F. Battin US Courthouse, three border stations, and various leased federal space. During her career with GSA, she has been involved with the construction of new border stations and construction/asbestos issues in the Battin Courthouse. She is looking forward to the next few years as GSA is developing three major projects in Billings that include a full abatement/renovation of the Battin Building, a new leased federal building, and a new leased courthouse.

"Throughout a marathon of nearly two years of difficult asbestos abatement problems in an occupied building, Kimberly never failed to place the safety and welfare of the tenants first. Her cooperativeness and talent at moving people toward the solutions, are the reasons that the project was a success," said Victor Feuerstein CIH, Bureau of Reclamation.